



Official Newsletter of the Miniwanca Younger Boys and Pre-Senior Camps

THE AMERICAN YOUTH FOUNDATION, 3930 Lindell Boulevard, St. Louis 8, Mo.

OCTOBER

1945

HELLO, MINIWANCA CAMPERS AND LEADERS!

Old Father Time certainly is running himself a great race, and can he make the time fly! Can you believe that more than three full months have passed since the last Chartered Bus rolled away from Stony Lake on July 25? That means that in less than 8 months we'll be back in camp again.

Now that the war is over, we are hoping that we will be able to do some of the many things at Camp which we have been planning for a long time. For example, we have ordered four new sailboats, and more will be ordered if the builder can get the lumber, and the labor, to make them. We already have four new Marconi sails, made for tall masts - bigger than the ones we now have.

We tried out one of the new sail and mast combinations this past summer on one of the old boats, and believe me, it is a swell job. All the old and new boats are scheduled to have the improved rig. --- And we think we have found a way to fix those leaky boats. We hope the plan works. It would be mighty fine to have a fleet of 12 sailboats on Stony Lake next summer.



Orders have definitely been placed for the construction of our concrete waterfront. When this job is completed we will have (1) a concrete sailboat wharf (2) a short pier extending out from the wharf, so as to make it easy for docking sailboats (3) a five foot wide concrete "walk" between the sailboat wharf and the north dock and also a five foot "walk" between the two swimming docks (4) two concrete abutments for the swimming docks. There will also be "slips" for the rowboats, a new oar and equipment box - and a number of other fine improvements. And that, gentlemen, will give Camp Miniwanca a truly fine waterfront layout.

And Aluminum Canoes! I wonder what they are like? The Brumman Airplane Corp. are advertising an aluminum canoe which they will manufacture as a postwar product. The canoe, I believe, weighs only 36#. We have written for information. If the canoes look good, and practical, we may have a few of them on hand next summer, to see how they will work. Sounds good, doesn't it?



Lake Michigan Fishing was given a tryout last summer - we all remember that fine catch of 150# of fish the first time the 1200 foot net was put down in Lake Michigan. Now that we have some experience to guide us, we're ready to make this a real Y.B. camp activity. All summer long the famous big Lake Michigan perch swarm along our camp shoreline and they are ours for the taking. A new perch net is being purchased and we'll be ready to do "commercial" fishing right from the beginning of the camp. Next summer it is hoped that we can have some old-fashioned, out-of-doors, fish fries on the camp schedule. A large fishing boat with outboard motor is being ordered so that we will have the right kind of equipment to do this job well. This past summer a local net fisherman came in every morning with a nice catch of big fat perch. If he can do it, so can we. So, come on you fishermen, let's go!

* * *

Y.B. Camp is fast becoming "National" in scope. Campers from 19 states were enrolled in the 1945 camp. This is not as many as have been represented some years in the past when travel conditions were less restricted. Now that gas rationing is off and rail travel has eased up some, we will probably have a larger state registration in the 1946 camp. Following is a list of 1945 states: Arkansas, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, Ohio Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Virginia, Wisconsin. Miniwanca Y.B. Campers have the broadening experience of rubbing shoulders, playing and competing with a cross-section of the boyhood of the nation.

* * *

Our hats are off to the snappy editorial staff of The Dunes Dispatch. Even before Y.B. Camp got under way, the Dunes Editor swung into action and produced a "Welcome to Miniwanca" issue of the camp paper - a copy of which was given to each camper as he moved down the enrolment line. Just to prove that their on-the-jobness was no fluke, ye Dunes Editors scored again by producing a Farewell Issue of the Dunes Dispatch for distribution to the campers just before starting for home. We salute you, Editors. Congratulations on your good work. That's the Miniwanca spirit.

* * *

Kodaya was "tops" as Song Leader. The singing this past summer was the best we've ever had in Y.B. Camp. Many new songs were learned. "Ye Old Singing Schule", which was held as a Nights Doing activity, as a big success. Many campers asked for a second session. Perhaps we can have more of this next summer. And speaking of Singing, here's an orchid for ole Ed Clark. It can truthfully be said that our 1945 Camper-Choir was the best in Y.B. history. The boys received many compliments from visitors and parents who attended church services on Chapel Dune. And the Choir made a tremendous hit with Y.G. Campers the night they staged their "surprise sing" in the Y.G. Camp after the "lights out" bell had rung. Thanks Ed, for a job well done.

* * *

Your 1945 Camp Roster, containing a list of names and addresses of all campers and leaders, is enclosed. Now you can begin to address your Christmas cards, or, you can write that letter to those good camp pals that you'd like to keep in touch with. Don't lose your Roster; put it in a safe place. Duplicate copies are not available.

Joe Whitwam did a mighty fine job as Director. Campers and leaders will never forget Joe's clean-cut, two-fisted and upstanding way of directing the Y.B. program. I'll guarantee that every fellow who goes in for school athletics will be a better athlete and team worker because of his training this summer under Joe's masterful direction. Joe "played" the camp just as he undoubtedly plays his crack track and field teams. We always knew where Joe stood. It was leadership at its best. The boy who likes to play a "lone wolf" game may have found the going a bit tough at times, but the boy who admires and respects achievement, and is interested in his own personal growth and development, learned lessons this past summer from Director Joe which will be of priceless value to him, as long as he lives. Miniwanca is a character camp. It exists for boys who want to become leaders. With but few exceptions, this was the kind of boy we had in Y.B. this past summer. And to the last man, these leadership calibre campers unite in saying "A big Thank You, Joe, for the swell job you did in directing Y.B."

* * *

The 1946 Y.B. Camp Leadership Staff will have on it a goodly number of returned Founder-Veterans; old Y.B. leaders who have been in the "hot spots" of the world war. Already letters are coming in from some of these men, asking that places be reserved for them on the Y.B. Leader Staff. These veteran-leaders all praise their Miniwanca training. Hundreds of Founder Service men have written of how the memories of Miniwanca days and experiences helped them to hold steady and carry on. What a camp we'll have next summer, with these "crack" leaders on hand to help guide the program, head the departments, and pal with you fellows in your tent groups! And what bull sessions and adventure and story hours will be possible with these Vet-leaders. Yes, I can see that 1946 Y.B. will be a high-point Camp - an experience that every camper will cherish and remember, as long as he lives.

For this camp we want top notch fellows - boys who want to build solid foundations of good, healthful character - hard-hitting, fun-loving, jelly good fellows. Last summer's camp was full of boys of this kind, and we are proud of the way in which the 1945 campers, with but few exceptions, upheld our Founder traditions.

You old Founders have the "edge" on places for the 1946 camp. You have the first chance to register. Many old campers have already sent in their applications for next summer. December 1st has been set as the deadline date for Old Camper Reservations. In other words, your place is being held for you until the 1st of December. Your application card should be in our files on or before that date. After Dec. 1, the registration files are open to everyone - old and new campers.

Be sure to keep in mind the fact that last year Y.B. Camp was full shortly after the first of the year, and many applications had to be turned down. The rush for places for next summer forecasts an early closing of the registration files. To be sure of your place, your card should be sent in before December 1.

Yes, you may recommend new campers. This year, your bonus credit will be \$5.00 for each new camper you enroll and who is accepted. In recommending campers, be sure they know what Miniwanca stands for. We want only the best boys - boys who have leadership possibilities and high moral standards. Let your prospects know that every boy accepted for Camp Miniwanca must be personally recommended. Make them understand that it is hard to get in. Miniwanca does not seek numbers. It is quality we are after. Keep in mind that a definite registration limit has been set. We do not want Y.B. Camp to become larger. So - pick your prospects carefully. Be proud of the boy you recommend.

* * *

Dad Waite did a swell job in personal counseling. To sit down with Dad and get a real line on yourself was a great and rare privilege. The thing we liked about it was that scores of fellows asked Dad for an interview. That's great stuff. That shows that a boy is really interested in himself. And Dad called everything by its name. He not only told the camper the good things about himself, but the "soft" and under-developed things, as well. A true coach tells an athlete about his weak points and shows him how to develop and become better. That is the idea of our Y.B. personal counseling plan. Dad has given suggestions to every Y.B. Camper. Go to it boy - do what the Coach tells you, if you really want to develop the "Star-Stuff" in you. Yes, Dad will be back next year, and you can check with him again, and see how much you have grown in your Founder personality. Make this a good year for yourself Founder-Fellow. Don't sell yourself short, if you know what I mean. Heads up everywhere - at all points.

Wadjepe

P. G. Orwig, Director
The American Youth Foundation

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1945 YOUNGER BOYS CAMP ROSTER

LEADERS

P. G. Orwig (Wadjepe), 3930 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis 8, Mo.
Joseph Whitwam, 47 S. 4th St., Niles, Mich.
Rev. R. A. Waite (Dad), 5825 Nina Place, St. Louis 12, Mo.
David Armington, 24365 Oakhill Drive, Euclid 17, Ohio
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Curtis E. Beam, 121 Hobson Ave., Hot Springs, Ark.
George C. Brown, 8746 Windom St., St. Louis 14, Mo. - School: William Jewell College,
Joe Buckles, 205 College Ave., Winfield, Kansas /Liberty, Mo.
Edward Clark, 205 N. Piccadilly St., Winchester, Va.
Chauncey Close, 1315 S. Norton Ave., Sioux Falls, S. Dak.
Bruce Currie, 211 E. Granville Rd., Worthington, Ohio
Robert Denny, 263 High St., Macon, Georgia
Clayton Gantner, 453 N. Kilmer, Dayton, Ohio
Robert Gamrath, 2108 S. Webster, Kokomo, Ind.
Frank Guthrie, 643 Park Drive, Kenilworth, Ill.
Rawlins Horlacher, 208 Ila St., Fayetteville, Ark.
Jack King, 2918 Ridgview Drive, St. Louis 21, Mo.
Jack Leming, 1504 Whitener St., Cape Girardeau, Mo.
Bruce McCormick, 104 Rubicon Road, Dayton, Ohio
Jack McDermott, 619 Bermuda, St. Louis, Mo.
David Nicholson, 20 N. Balch St., Akron 3, Ohio
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Joe Peacock, 2121 White, Knoxville, Tenn.
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